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Report of plague denied.

[Cablegram.]

CADIZ, SPAIN, *November 29, 1899.*

Secretary of Treasury, Washington, United States: Civil governor states supposed case of bubonic plague proves not to be such.—CARROLL.

TURKEY.

Reports from Constantinople.

[Report No. 232.]

SANITARY CONDITION OF TURKEY.—CHOLERA IN BASSORAH.

CONSTANTINOPLE, *November 9, 1899.*

The sanitary news from the provinces of the Turkish Empire is good. I do not mean Bassorah, where cholera has made its appearance as I have already reported. The last sanitary news forwarded by the sanitary physician of the latter place states that cholera is spreading. Cholera cases have been registered at Kurna, Shooan, and what is worse at Sook-el shoo-yookh, Nassirieh on the Euphrates, and at Amara on the Tigris. We owe, I may say, said spread to the carelessness of the local authorities which have made such an opposition to the ex-sanitary physician of that place and have obliged, as I have already reported, the sanitary board to appoint him to Abu Saad in the Red Sea.

I inclose a French copy of the telegrams wired from Bassorah concerning the cholera epidemic in said place.

The sanitary reports received from Djiddah state that during the month of May last, 153 deaths were registered in said town; 77 deaths during the month of June; 78 during the month of July, and 63 during the month of September. Among the 77 deaths registered in June, 23 were of poor pilgrims who could not return to their own country on account of their poverty. The disease which has caused the larger number of deaths is dysentery. Its cause is obvious, as I have already written about the bad quality of water of Djiddah.

DENGUE AND TYPHOID FEVER AT ADALIA.

The sanitary physician of Adalia reports under date of September 20 that there are some cases of typhoid fever and a wide-spread epidemic of dengue fever. During the month of August there were some cases of scarlet fever and measles which have disappeared. It is announced from Trebizonde that whooping cough is prevailing there. The health in Aleppo is rather good according to the sanitary report received from said town where during the month of August, 74 deaths were registered. In Jaffa during the same month only 26 deaths were registered.

SANITARY NEWS FROM THE PRINCIPALITY OF SAMOS.

Dr. A. Stamatiadis, the sanitary physician in the island of Samos, reports that having exposed to His Highness the Prince of Samos the very imperfect condition of the sanitary service which exists in said principality, the Prince has issued a decree, according to which the mayors of the different communes will provide the physicians who

practice there with a little book-register, on which they will notify, in case of deaths, the name, the sex, the diagnosis of the illness which has caused the death, as well as the date. It will not be allowed to make any burial without exhibiting previously said physician's notification. By such step the number of deaths occurring in said principality will be known. At the same time, August 16, 1899, another decree was issued by which a council of hygiene is instituted at Samos.

COUNCIL OF HYGIENE APPOINTED AT SAMOS—TREATMENT OF LEPERS AND CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Said council of hygiene is composed of 4 members, 3 medical doctors and 1 chemist. One of said doctors of medicine must be the sanitary physician appointed by the sanitary board of Constantinople. Besides said 3 members there will be 3 more among the physicians practicing in the three districts of the principality at Carlovalis, Tighani, and Marathocampo. Said council will have every week a sitting in which the subjects to be discussed will be that of the improvement of the sanitary condition of the island and preventing and checking the spread of epidemics.

The question concerning the practice of medicine, midwifery, and pharmacy will also be considered, as well as the question of the analysis of the alimentary commodities imported into Samos, without excepting the forensic medical questions which will have to be settled hereafter by said council of hygiene. There have already been two sittings of said council, in the first of which it has been decided to segregate all the patients suffering from leprosy, without any distinction of sex, age, or social consideration. In the second sitting the question of the spread of tuberculosis was discussed and it has been decided to establish a sanitarium where the patients suffering from said disease will undergo treatment.

SANITARY CONDITION OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

Public health in Constantinople is rather good. The number of deaths registered during the twelve days from October 25, to the 6th instant is 457, of which 1 was from smallpox, 6 from diphtheria, and 13 from typhoid fever.

PLAGUE NEWS.

After about forty days during which no plague case had been registered in Alexandria, 1 case of said disease has been observed in the Greek hospital in Alexandria. At the last sitting of the Superior Sanitary Commission it was announced that the Italian Government does not subject to any quarantine the ships and passengers coming from Egypt but the latter have to undergo a medical visit and the disinfection of their wearing apparel.

CHOLERA IN PERSIA.

According to the latest official intelligence, cholera has made its appearance in the city of Mohamera in Persia, where 7 cholera cases have occurred.

Respectfully,

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
U. S. Sanitary Commissioner

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.